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Monitoring foals by thoracic ultrasonography, bacterial culture and PCR: diagnostic of *Rhodococcus equi* subclinical pneumonia in south of Brazil

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HIGHLIGHTS

**Monitoring foals by thoracic ultrasonography, bacterial culture and PCR:
diagnostic of *Rhodococcus equi* subclinical pneumonia.**

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- *R. equi vapA* was detected on the samples from twelve of the 22 foals (54.5%).
- The number of samples positive for *R. equi* increased on 7th week (40.9%) and on 16th week (33.33%).
- 95.4% of the foals showed evidence of subclinical disease based on pulmonary abscessation or consolidation
- none of the foals in this study developed *R. equi* pneumonia.

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